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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides for an improved method and apparatus for cleaning industrial lubricants used in industrial processes. The method comprises providing a centrifugal separator apparatus connected as a bypass or in-line filter in the lubricating or washing fluid tank. The apparatus includes a centrifugal separator having a casing and a rotor rotatably mounted 10 in the casing. A centrifugal pump is provided between the tank and the inlet of the separator. A source of compressed air is provided connected to the casing of the separator. Some of the fluid from the tank is pumped by 15 the centrifugal pump into the separator to cause the rotor to rotate at a speed sufficient to provide a rotational force of the fluid impinging on the casing of between about 1000g and about 2000g to thereby clean the fluid. The cleaned fluid is returned to the tank. 20 volume of air in the casing is maintained by introduction of air into the casing by the source of compressed air. A control panel is provided to monitor the operation of the separator and control the pump and source of compressed air to maintain rotational force of the 25 separator within the range.